Price of Metranidazole

870. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to the Unstarred Question 1329 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st May, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been brought to the notice of his Ministry that Metranidazole is being sold in the market at price lower than the notified price;

(b) what steps are being taken to reduce the price of the drug;

(c) whether it is a fact that the major beneficiary is M/s. May and Baker; and

(d) what is the quantity purchased by the company during the last three years and at what prices were these purchases made by the company?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cost-cum-technical study to determine the fair price of Metronidazole is already at an advanced stage in the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices. The price of this drug would be reviewed after the receipt of recommendations of the Bureau.

(c) May & Baker is one of the producer of the bulk drug Metronidazole.

(d) Details of purchases made by M/s. May & Baker and the prices thereof are not available with the Government.

Composition of Special Team to determine the overcharged amounts from drug companies

871. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 710 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th May, 1990 and state:

(a) what are the names of the members of the Special Team which was appointed to determine the amount recoverable from the drug companies involved in Supreme Court cases and what was their ability or experience to handle such matters;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of instances of bungling have been found in the findings of the team; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to fix the responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) A Special Team consisting of the following Members was constituted for the purpose of calculating the dues against the companies involved in the Supreme Court case:—

(1) Sh. R. N. Tandon, Joint Director (Chemicals).

(2) Sh. S. Guria, Dy. Secretary.

(3) Shri K. L. Arora, representative of the BICP.

(4) Shri Ashok Chopra, Junior Investigator.

The members of the Special Team were experienced officers.

(b) and (c) A number of representations were received against the findings of the Special Team. It was therefore, decided to review such findings. Action, if any, against the members would arise only after the liabilities are finalised.

Review of the findings of the Special Team to determine the amounts from drug companies

872. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 313 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th May, 1990 and state:

(a) what were the amounts assessed after review of the findings of the Special Team and when were these amounts communicated to the companies;

(b) what were the corresponding amounts worked out by the Special Team against each company;

(c) what substance his Ministry has found in the representations after review against the members and findings of the Special Team;

(d) whether his Ministry have taken any action against the members of Special Team; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) A Statement giving the details is attached. (*See* below) The tentative amounts have been assessed after review based on the available data. The amounts so assessed would undergo further changes once the complete details are made available by the companies involved in the Supreme Court case. The amounts were communicated to the companies during the months of May to July, 1990.

(c) to (e) A view on this issue can be taken only after the amounts are finalised.

Statement

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Company	Tentative amount assessed by the Special Team upto 31-12-1983	Tentative amount assessed upto 31-12-1983 after review
1.	M/s. Pfizer Limited	48.21	87.61
2.	M/s. Cyanamid India Ltd.	389.06	536.91
3.	M/s. Hoechst (India) Ltd.	458.10	2491.05
4.	M/s. Anil Starch Products Limited	11.61*	11.61
5.	M/s. John Wyeth (India) Ltd.	133.45	173.02
	M/s. Geoffrey Manners	28.37	28.37
6.	M/s. Ethnor Limited	8.15	10.19
7.	M/s. S.G. Pharmaceuticals	114.30*	205.36
8.	M/s. Tamil Nadu Dadha Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	15.59*	37.97
9.	M/s. Merind Ltd.	138.79*	781.58
10.	M/s. Franco Indian Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	11.02	14.02
	M/s. Griffon Ltd.		

*Assessed but not communicated to the company.